GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5637
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2000
PREVENTION OF PATENT
ANNA SAHEB M.K. PATIL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to prevent patenting of India`s traditional knowledge of medicinal plants by the outsiders;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a)to(c) A Task Force has been set up to prepare a data base for establishing a Traditional Knowledge Digital Library so that all the documented information becomes accessible to the Patent examiners globally. The objective is to prevent patenting of knowledge about the medicinal use of plants which is already in the public domain.